Entered Article 19

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CLAIMS

1. Pond filter with a housing, which can be supported on its ground side on a foundation and has a longitudinal axis and a transverse axis, and in whose wall a water inlet, a channel outlet, and a pond outlet are constructed, such that a flow path from the water inlet to the pond outlet is formed in the housing during filtration operation, and a filtering device is installed in the flow path, characterized by the fact that a pre-filtering unit (7) is arranged in the flow path upstream of the filtering device (5).

2. Pond filter in accordance with Claim 1, characterized by the fact that the pre-filtering unit (7) comprises a filter screen (7.1) with a flat construction.

3. Pond filter in accordance with Claim 2, characterized by the fact that the filter screen (7.1) is arranged parallel to the transverse axis (X) and at an angle to the longitudinal axis (Y) in such a way that the filter screen (7.1) has an end (7.4) that is close to the ground and an end (7.3) that is distant from the ground.

4. Pond filter in accordance with Claim 2 or Claim 3, characterized by the fact that the pre-filtering unit (7) has a diverting device (7.6, 7.7, 7.9), which is arranged in the flow path between the water inlet (3.2) and the filter screen (7.1).

5. Pond filter in accordance with Claim 4, characterized by the fact that the diverting device (7.6, 7.7, 7.9) is arranged parallel to the transverse axis (X) and forms a flow chamber (7.6), which has at least one outlet opening (7.7) above the end (7.3) of the filter screen (7.1) that is distant from the ground, in such a way that intake water strikes the distant end of the filter screen and flows along the oblique filter surface towards the end (7.3) that is close to the ground and flows down by gravity into the filtration unit through filter openings (7.2) in the filter screen (7.1).

6. Pond filter in accordance with Claim 4 or Claim 5, characterized by the fact that the flow chamber (7.6) has one or more diverting elements (7.9), each of which is

associated with an outlet opening (7.7).

7. Pond filter in accordance with any of Claims 2 to 6, characterized by the fact that the filter screen (7.1) is formed in several parts in a direction parallel to the transverse axis (X).

8. Pond filter in accordance with Claim 7, characterized by the fact that each outlet opening (7.7) of the flow chamber (7.6) is assigned to one part of the multipart filter screen (7.1).

9. Pond filter in accordance with Claim 7 or Claim 8, characterized by the fact that the flow path of the intake water can be diverted with the diverting element (7.9) to one or more parts of the filter screen (7.1).

10. Pond filter in accordance with any of Claims 2 to 9, characterized by the fact that a flushing channel (9) is connected with the pre-filtering unit (7) behind (with respect to the longitudinal axis (Y)) the end (7.4) of the filter screen (7.1) that is close to the ground.

11. Pond filter in accordance with Claim 10, characterized by the fact that the flushing channel (9) has an inlet opening (9.1), which is closed during the filtration operation and open during the flushing operation.

12. Pond filter in accordance with Claim 10 or Claim 11, characterized by the fact that a flow barrier is formed parallel to the transverse axis (X) between the flushing channel (9) and the filter screen (7.1) and can be overcome by the intake water during the flushing operation.

13. Pond filter in accordance with Claim 11 or Claim 12, characterized by the fact that the inlet opening (9.1) of the flushing channel (9) is shaped like a funnel.

14. Pond filter in accordance with any of the preceding Claims 2 to 13,

characterized by the fact that the pre-filtering unit (7) is designed to swivel.

15. Pond filter in accordance with Claim 14, characterized by the fact that the pre-filtering unit (7) can be swiveled about an axis of rotation (S) parallel to the transverse axis (X).

16. Pond filter in accordance with Claim 15, characterized by the fact that the axis of rotation (S) is located above the flushing channel (9).

17. Pond filter in accordance with Claim 16, characterized by the fact that the pre-filtering unit (7) can be swiveled about the axis of rotation (S) between an essentially horizontal position for the filtration operation and an essentially vertical position.

18. Pond filter in accordance with any of Claims 10 to 17, characterized by the fact that the flushing channel (9) can be released from its connection with the channel outlet (3.4) in such a way that a flow path of the water is formed from the filtration unit (5) into the channel outlet (3.4) for the purpose of producing a flushing effect for the filtration unit (5).

19. Pond filter in accordance with any of the preceding claims, characterized by the fact that the filtration unit (5) consists of a large number of filter cartridges (5.1), which are designed to be compressible for cleaning purposes.

20. Pond filter in accordance with any of the preceding claims, characterized by the fact that the filtration unit (5) has at least one supplementary cartridge (5.6), which contains a filter aid selected from the group comprising activated carbon, zeolite, lava rock and biocore.